

through. As a young person, Eric has often been challenged to be the bigger man, and to keep from being hurt by unkind remarks. It has not been easy.

Eric has also committed himself to his education. I understand at times that has been frustrating and, like all young men, Eric has sometimes been tempted to study less and hang out more. As the occasion of his graduation attests, however, Eric has risen to the challenge and succeeded.

In closing, I would like to extend my best wishes to Eric Simon on his high school graduation from New Prague High School. His commitment to his education and family are commendable and greatly admired. I am very proud of this young man. I congratulate him on a job well done.

I call upon my colleagues to join me in honoring Eric Simon of New Prague, MN on the occasion of his high school graduation.●

HONORING DR. FRED CHOLICK

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I publicly congratulate Dr. Fred Cholick on a very successful career as the dean of the College of Agriculture and Biological Sciences at South Dakota State University. He has accepted the position as the new dean of agriculture at Kansas State University.

Over the years, Fred has been extraordinarily committed to South Dakota agriculture and SDSU. He is one of the most effective agriculture spokespersons the State has ever had. He speaks with compassion about the benefits of agriculture to our State's economy.

On a personal level, Fred quickly struck a close working relationship with my staff. He enjoyed working with my office when I secured a seat on the Senate Appropriations Committee and Fred experienced the same learning curve we did as we explored various ways to secure Federal funding for SDSU. Despite some setbacks, Fred always kept a positive outlook on the very precarious appropriations process and was incredibly honored that he had the opportunity to work on projects to benefit SDSU and South Dakota's agricultural community. Fred is a real ambassador for agriculture in the State and has done a very effective job at outreach to get everyone in South Dakota to understand the value of our agriculture economy.

Fred worked hard to ensure SDSU was a reputable university with respect to animal health, dairy, ruminant nutrition, biotech and other areas of research. He should be given particular credit for working with Associate Dean Kevin Kephart to develop the Sun Grant Initiative into something that may soon become a reality. His vision for the role renewable energy can play in agriculture is cutting edge. Fred has always been an effective advocate for all land grant universities, and that is why his colleagues around the country selected him as their spokesperson. So

while always loyal to South Dakota, Fred could effectively speak on behalf of all land grant schools across the United States.

He has developed strong relationships with his students as a teacher, as well as the dean of agriculture. He worked hard to ensure the students in the College of Agriculture were getting personal attention and a top-notch education. He cared deeply for those graduating and would help them find employment in their respective fields.

Fred was a real champion of value-added agriculture and worked hard to get farmers in South Dakota to understand how to capture larger profits from adding value to the raw goods produced on their operations.

Losing Fred is a huge loss to South Dakota and SDSU, and I personally know that he struggled with the decision to leave SDSU for Kansas State. But, in the end, I think it is his undying commitment to agriculture that led him to decide that Kansas State was the right move. His kind of leadership and character is exactly what the agricultural community needs to evolve and survive in the future. I wish nothing but the best for him and his family. It is with great honor that I share his impressive accomplishments with my colleagues.●

TRIBUTE TO JANE HINTON HART

● Mr. MILLER. Mr. President, today I honor a fellow Georgian, Mrs. Jane Hinton Hart. Mrs. Hart is retiring after more than 30 years of service in the U.S. Government. She was raised in Thomson, GA, where she graduated from Thomson High School in 1966, and Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, TX, in 1970. She returned to Georgia and taught school in Augusta from January 1970 to June 1973.

Mrs. Hart began her Federal Government career on the staff of former Senator Sam Nunn, where she served the people of Georgia from 1973 to 1991. During her 18 years of service in Senator Nunn's office, Mrs. Hart worked the full spectrum of positions found in a congressional office. She began as a staff assistant and became a senior legislative assistant to the Senator and the liaison between the Senator's office and the military installations in the State of Georgia.

In 1991, Mrs. Hart moved from the Hill to the Office of Legislative Affairs, Headquarters Marine Corps, where she has served four commandants, Generals Mundy, Krulak, Jones, and Hagee. As a legislative specialist, she has been responsible for reviewing and researching numerous legislative issues to determine their impact on the U.S. Marine Corps. She has provided guidance and drafted legislative proposals for inclusion in the Department of Defense omnibus legislative packages. She works closely with the Legislative Affairs Offices of the Department of the Navy and Department of Defense.

In addition to Mrs. Hart's Government service, she has been an active

education advocate through various PTAs in Arlington County, VA, a volunteer in the Boy Scouts of America, a Sunday school teacher, and she reads monthly at a homeless shelter. She will complete her masters in reading education this fall and plans to return to the classroom and teach.

I wish Mrs. Hart, her husband, Jim, and their son, John, all the best. I am delighted that she came here from Georgia seeking to serve our Nation, and has done so with distinction for more than 30 years. Georgia is proud of Mrs. Hart's dedication, hard work and patriotism, and I wish for her many more years of continuing success.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE DURING ADJOURNMENT

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Under authority of the order of the Senate of January 7, 2003, the Secretary of the Senate, during the adjournment of the Senate, on May 24, 2004, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 2092. An act to address the participation of Taiwan in the World Health Organization.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS) on today, June 1, 2004.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-7671. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Spring Viremia of Carp; Payment of Indemnity" (Doc. No. 02-091-1) received on May 25, 2004; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7672. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Karnal